

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840



In Kidderminster Town Hall

They Carried The Pioneers' Spirit

(See article page 388)

THE THREE WITNESSES

By BISHOP HEBER C. IVERSON

OLIVER COWDERY, who was the scribe for Joseph Smith as he translated the Book of Mormon, together with two companions, gave the following testimony of the authenticity of that sacred volume :

“Be it known unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, unto whom this work shall come: That we, through the grace of God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, have seen the plates which contain this record, which is a record of the people of Nephi, and also of the Lamanites, their brethren, and also of the people of Jared, who came from the tower of which hath been spoken. And we also know that they have been translated by the gift and power of God, for his voice hath declared it unto us; wherefore we know of a surety that the work is true. And we also testify that we have seen the engravings which are upon the plates; and they have been shown unto us by the power of God, and not of man. And we declare with words of soberness, that an angel of God came down from heaven, and he brought and laid before our eyes, that we beheld and saw the plates, and the engravings thereon; and we know that it is by the grace of God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, that we beheld and bear record that these things are true. And it is marvellous in our eyes. Nevertheless, the voice of the Lord commanded us that we should bear record of it; wherefore, to be obedient unto the commandments of God, we bear testimony of these things. And we know that if we are faithful in

Giving Honour

A TOTAL of three thousand baptisms for the dead on the line of Oliver Cowdery, one of the Three Witnesses and first person to be baptized into the Church in this dispensation, were performed at special ceremonies under the direction of the Aaronic priesthood in the seven temples of the Church last April 27th.

Commemorating the 151st birthday anniversary of Martin Harris, 10,000 persons, most of them youths between the ages of 12 and 20 years, gathered at his grave in Clarkston, Utah, May, 1934, for special exercises conducted by the Aaronic priesthood. It was the greatest single assemblage of the Aaronic priesthood of the Restored Church up to that time.

Christ, we shall rid our garments of the blood of all men, and be found spotless before the judgment-seat of Christ, and shall dwell with him eternally in the heavens. And the honour be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, which is one God. Amen.

(Signed)

OLIVER COWDERY,
DAVID WHITMER,
MARTIN HARRIS.”

After giving this sacred testimony, Oliver Cowdery, because of insubordination, unchristianlike conduct, was excommunicated by the Prophet Joseph from the Church in 1838. He went into

an adjoining state and became there the prosecuting attorney in a judicial district. He was a school teacher and a practising attorney. In 1848 he came to a special conference of the Church, held in Kanesville, Iowa on the 21st day of October, 1848, and addressing the audience said:

“Friends and Brethren: My name is Cowdery, Oliver Cowdery. In the early history of this Church I stood identified with her, and one in her councils. True it is that the gifts and callings of God are without repentance; not because I was better than the rest of mankind was I called; but to fulfill the purposes of God. He called me to a high and holy calling.

“I wrote, with my own pen, the entire Book of Mormon (save a few pages) as it fell from the lips of the Prophet Joseph Smith as he translated it by the gift and power of God, by the means of the Urim and Thummim, or, as it is called by that book, the ‘holy interpreters.’ I beheld with my eyes, and handled with my hands, the gold plates from which it was transcribed. I also saw with my eyes and handled with my hands the ‘holy interpreters.’

“That book is true. Sidney Rigdon did not write it; Mr. Spaulding did not write it; I wrote it myself as it fell from the lips of the Prophet. It contains the everlasting Gospel, and came forth to the children of men in fulfillment of the revelations of John, where he says he saw an angel come with the everlasting Gospel to preach to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. It contains principles of salvation, and if you, my hearers, will walk by its light and obey its precepts, you will be saved with an everlasting salvation in the kingdom of God on high.

“Brother Hyde has just said that it is very important that we keep and walk in the true channel, in order to avoid the sand bars. This is true. The channel is here. The Holy Priesthood is here. I was present with Joseph when an holy angel from God came down from heaven and conferred on us the Lesser or Aaronic Priesthood, and said to us, at the same time, that it should remain upon the earth while the earth stands.

“I was also present with Joseph when the Higher or Melchizedek Priesthood was conferred by holy angels from on high. This Priesthood we then conferred on each other, by the will and commandment of God. This Priesthood as was then declared, is also to remain upon the earth until the last remnant of time. This holy Priesthood, or authority, we then conferred upon many, and is just as good and valid as though God had done it in person.

“I laid my hands upon that man—yes, I laid my right hand upon his head (pointing to Brother Orson Hyde) and I conferred upon him this Priesthood, and he holds that Priesthood now. He was also called, through me, by the prayer of faith, an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

OLIVER COWDERY was rebaptized a short time after this statement was made, at this special conference, but while making preparations to migrate to Utah he was taken ill in the city of Richmond, Missouri, in the home of his associate, David Whitmer. Just before his passing he called to his bedside some of

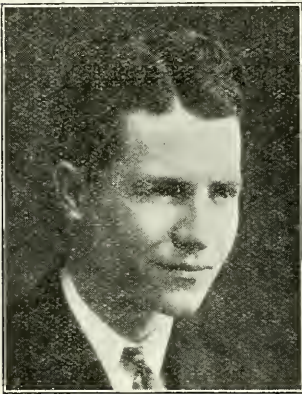
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THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY

"Build Zion Today" is the Theme of First M. I. A. Conference

IN a setting of surrounding green hills brightened by the golden rays of a rising sun, old Kidderminster of Worcestershire stands as a monument to the dawn of a new day in the Mutual Improvement Association of the British mission.

To the chronicles of this little village of the midlands, which was founded as a monastery under the Saxon Kings of Mercia in the seventh century, has been added in the Jubilee year of the reign of His Majesty, King George V, the most important page of its eventful history—the record of the first annual mission-wide M. I. A. conference of Great Britain, held Saturday, Sunday and Monday, June 8th, 9th and 10th.



G. HOMER DURHAM

Carrying the same spirit of the Mormon Pioneers who trudged across the American plains eighty-eight years ago, nearly 300 saints (91 of whom were travelling elders) journeyed from all parts of the British Isles for the three-day convention at Whitsuntide. Some of them cycling, some of them motoring, some of them travelling on buses and trains and some even walking, they came from Scotland, Ireland, Wales and the four corners of England for the first conference, held simultaneously with the annual general M.I.A. convention of the Church in the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City.

The convention, the sessions of which were held in the Kidderminster Town hall, the Latter-day Saint chapel and the Corn Exchange building, was reminiscent of the first general conference of the mission held in Preston, Lancashire on April 8th, 1838, under the direction of Heber C. Kimball, who has been called the "father of the British mission." The three days at Kidderminster included the general Sunday sessions, a testimony meeting, M. I. A. activity contests, exhibits and institutes, a dance and a concert.

Following the conference, a two-day convention of the travelling elders of the mission was held under the direction of President Cannon. President Joseph F. Merrill of the European missions was the principal speaker.

To say the first M. I. A. conference was a success would fall short of describing its power in spreading the Restored Gospel in Britain. However, its outstanding virtues were fivefold:

First, the conference was a power for breaking down the walls of prejudice toward the Church that have been built in the past by ill-informed people. Newspapers throughout Great Britain published articles about the conference, all of which were fair and favourable. The two Kidderminster periodicals, the *Kidderminster Times* and the *Kidderminster Shuttle*, both printed pictures of the gathering along with detailed accounts. Typical of the tenor of press attitude is an article which appeared in the

June 10th edition of the *Birmingham Gazette*, largest newspaper in England's second largest city. Captioned, "Scout Law Based on Mormon Ideals," it read :

"More than 500 delegates besides the official priesthood of the movement were present at the opening conference yesterday in Kidderminster Town hall of the British mission of Latter-day Saints.

"President Joseph J. Cannon of the British mission attended the opening rally, which was directed by Mr. G. Homer Durham, superintendent of the British mission Young Men's Mutual Improvement association.

"The general subject for group and mass discussions was 'How to Build Zion Today With Mutual Improvement Associations.'

"Mr. Lewis H. Tarr, speaking for the Scout section, which was now strong in America, declared that the first Scout law was based on Mormon ideals.

"Dr. Ray M. Russell, summing up the afternoon session, insisted that they must build up body and brain, have spiritual, mental and physical contact in building up social England. That was why the programme for this conference was concentrating attention on bodily development.

"Athletic sports will be held this afternoon before the farewell meeting."

Thousands of people read of the vitality of Mormonism.

The Mayor of Kidderminster, Councillor A. E. Meredith, through the pages of the *Millennial Star*, sent a message of welcome to Latter-day Saint delegates. Paul Raffman, whose band has played over the facilities of the B. B. C. wireless, stood to his feet at the close of the M. I. A. dance and expressed his pleasure in playing for a Latter-day Saint gathering.



CATHERINE L. M. HORNER

Second, the conference was a power for spreading the message of the Gospel. Nearly 300 saints and missionaries lodged for three days with 48 Kidderminster families, representing approximately 250 souls. With word and deed they preached the Restored Truth. Their abstaining habits at the breakfast table and their conversations in the evening opened the Gospel door to these homes. Many of Kidderminster's citizens attended the sessions. At the Sunday evening meeting alone there were approximately 150 non-members in attendance.

All of the delegates wore ribbon badges of gold, bearing the name of M. I. A. "Build Zion Today" was the theme of the conference. Everywhere, in the shops, in the homes and on the streets, residents were told, both tacitly and verbally, that Mormonism meant "more good." Perhaps never before had the town of Kidderminster witnessed a convention of this kind in which there was no smoking or drinking. Certainly there was a silent sermon of Latter-day Saint teaching. Then too, in the large Kidderminster Cooperative hall 200 saints were served daily. Milk filled the tea cups and there was little meat on the menu.

The track meet at Whitville sports ground, the first in the history of the mission, told Kidderminster's 30,000 population

that Latter-day Saints believed in physical development. The Gleaner Girl and Bee-Hive Girl exhibits in the Town hall told them that Latter-day Saints sought culture, and the speech and choral contests told them that M. I. A. stood literally for "mutual improvement."

Third, the conference was a power for mission solidarity. It welded the Church in Britain into a unit of common understanding, bringing the mission family together for the first time in years.

The New Slogan

"We Stand For Spirituality and Happiness in the Home" is the slogan for the Mutual Improvement Association for 1935-36.

This keynote of M. I. A. activity for the coming season was announced in the morning Kidderminster session on Sunday, June 9th, by Sister Florence A Bickerstaff, secretary-treasurer of the British mission Y. W. M. I. A. board. It was the first time all districts of the mission had heard at one time the announcement of the slogan.

At the conference Sister Rose W. Bennett of the general Y. W. M. I. A. board explained the significance of the M. I. A. colours, Gold and Green; Gold for power and glory, and Green for youth and growth.

At the morning session on Sunday 40 members of branch presidencies and 15 members of district presidencies were present. Saints from Scotland met others from Wales. Those from Ireland rubbed shoulders with members from London. Scores of saints became warm friends of scores of others whom they had read about but never seen.

Fourth, the conference provided an invaluable instruction course and an incentive for increased M. I. A. activity in the mission. In well-planned, compact institutes M. I. A. officers and teachers from all fifteen districts of the mission received from their leaders in unity the outline for the coming year's programme. The awarding for the first time of the beautiful Russell cup for M Men athletics and the Russell plaque for M Men achievement offered a stimulant for the M Men youth movement of the Church in Britain. For the first time all of the districts in the mission heard the announcement of the M. I. A. slogan for the coming season.

Fifth, the conference offered a spiritual feast. No one who attended the Sunday meetings will forget the inspiring addresses of the Church leaders, including British Mission President Joseph J. Cannon, Sister

Rose W. Bennett of Salt Lake City, member of the General Y. W. M. I. A. Board; Sister Emily T. Merrill, consulting adviser of women's auxiliaries in the European missions, and Sister Ramona W. Cannon, who holds the same position in the British mission.

In the Sunday morning testimony meeting in the Latter-day Saint chapel 44 persons, one of them a non-member, stood in turn voluntarily and extemporaneously and bore solemn testimony to the divinity of the Gospel.

Indeed the Lord poured out His Spirit upon that historic gathering.

The conference was exceptionally well planned and presented by mission Y. M. M. I. A. and Y. W. M. I. A. officers. Members of the mission Y. M. board included Superintendent G.

Homer Durham; Dr. Ray M. Russell, first assistant; Lewis H. Tarr, second assistant; John Bleakley, secretary-treasurer, and M. Neff Smart, executive secretary. The Y. W. M. I. A. board is composed of President Catherine L. M. Horner; Madeline E. R. Hill, first counsellor; Ruth Elise Mace, second counsellor; Florence A. Bickerstaff, secretary-treasurer, and Rose B. Bailey, Mission Beekeeper. Supervising Elder Stephen R. Murdock of the Birmingham district was in charge of the lodging accommodations at the conference, assisted by a committee of workers from the Kidderminster branch.

THE conference programme began Saturday afternoon with the Gleaner Girl "Treasures of Truth" and Bee-Hive "Honeycombs" scrapbook exhibits in the Chapel. There were 25 beautiful books in the Gleaner display, Sheffield district contributing the most, ten. Of the 25 "Honeycombs," Birmingham district provided the most, seven.

At twilight the finals of the first mission-wide M Men public speaking and Gleaner choral contests were held. Brother Fred K. Birkhead, president of the Barnsley branch of Sheffield district, won first place, and Mr. James Bonsall of the Manchester branch of Manchester district placed second. Other finalists were Brother Horace E. Heyes of Wigan branch, Liverpool district, and Brother Dennis Collins of Kidderminster branch, Birmingham district. The 1934-35 M. I. A. slogan, "By My Actions I Will Prove My Allegiance to the Church," was the subject of the contest speeches.

Brother Birkhead's eloquent oration is symbolic of what Latter-day Saint teachings will do for one who conscientiously follows them. Beginning when a boy 14 years of age, he has worked in one of Yorkshire's coal mines for 16 years. During that time he has been an active worker in the Church, serving as president of his branch M. I. A. for five years previous to his appointment as branch president. He and his wife, Jane Wagstaff Birkhead (who herself is an excellent speaker) have two children, Roy Hamilton, four, and Barbara Kelly, two.

Sheffield district Gleaner Girls won first place in the ladies' chorus competition. Members of the winning group, directed by Sister Dora Bargh, were Sisters Rita Hardy, Dorothy Bailey, Mabel Bailey, Winifred Ludlam, Amy Heap, Edith Johnson, Hilda Mann, Arvilla Smith and Elizabeth Mathinson. The contest included two songs, "Carry On," and an optional selection. "Derry Vale" was the choice of the victorious chorus. Other finalists included Birmingham, Nottingham and Leeds districts.

Accumulating 4,545 points, Wigan branch M Men of Liverpool district, in the first year of their organization, won the Russell plaque for achievement, which was presented by the donor, Dr. Ray M. Russell, at this session. Their total included points for drama, speaking, music, organization, and track and field. Members of the Wigan club are Thomas Nurdin, president; J. C. Rickard, vice-president; Joseph Heyes, class leader; Frank Brindle, secretary-treasurer, and Horace E. Heyes, William Worrall and Herbert S. Webster.

Kidderminster branch of Birmingham district was second, with 4,225 points, and Barnsley branch of Sheffield district was

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THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1935

EDITORIAL

A GLORIOUS OCCASION

A PART of the happy programme of the M. I. A. June conference was a room full of "Treasures of Truth." Next year, when this interesting exhibit of the art and faith of girlhood is brought together, the book of one of the Gleaners will have a treasure acquired in Kidderminster.

On the yellow cover of one Gleaner's conference programme a resident of the little Worcestershire town wrote: "I have been charmed with the visit of the Latter-day Saints to our home. We took them with a little misgiving. We say goodbye to them with genuine regret. Their very apparent happiness makes one feel they have found something worth striving for, and they have been to us a real inspiration and help, and unitedly we pray, 'God bless them.'"

That paragraph tells the Kidderminster story. The committee when it began had a discouraging time securing housing accommodations. People were not willing to open their homes to the Latter-day Saints, although fair pay was offered. By dint of effort the resistance was overcome. Another year, if Kidderminster is selected as the place for the June conference, homes will be opened willingly. That is the report of Branch Counsellor William B. Gittins, who settled for the lodgings of the visitors.

In hundreds of homes prejudice was broken down, in scores investigators were left. Certainly the past year's slogan was exemplified, "By Our Actions We Will Prove Our Allegiance To The Church." The Kidderminster branch will have a direct benefit, for strong friendships and much lively interest were created.

There could hardly be a different result, considering the spirit in which the young people gathered.

At the eight o'clock testimony meeting on Sunday morning in the beautiful chapel owned by the Church, the zeal and earnestness were exemplified by the words of one young man. He had prayed that he might be able to go to Kidderminster, but lacked the means. He was walking along the street one morning, and yielding to a sudden impulse wended his way to a hospital. There he met a doctor who exclaimed that he was glad to see he had come. A blood transfusion was required and he desired the clean, tested blood of this young man. Two pints were taken. Enough money was paid for it to take the youth to the June conference, and he suffered not the slightest ill effect from the drain.

But every branch of the British mission will benefit from the conference. From Scotland, Ireland and Wales and every district of England representatives have carried back a stimulation not only for the work of the Mutual Improvement but for all the auxiliaries and the whole great cause.

There is a psychology in numbers. Many of our branches are small with few members carrying many responsibilities. When more than four hundred, of one heart and mind, meet together in song, prayer and the stirring programme of the conference, a new feeling of grandeur of the work was created. All go back with the little part they did glorified by the strength and beauty of the larger group, as they saw it in action.

Many friendships were begun in Kidderminster that will go on forever. Some acquaintances were made that may result in romance and marriage. It may be stated frankly that one of the objectives of the conference was to let the young membership of the Church meet and have opportunity to establish those enduring ties.

The Church teaches that young men and women should look forward to marriage as one of life's responsibilities, opportunities and blessings. One of the great factors of the growth of the Latter-day Saints is the willingness of its members to have large families. We believe in them. They are eternal treasures. The authorities of the mission will be exceedingly interested in observing whether the conference of June, 1936 will be attended by young married couples whose romance began at Kidderminster.

The officers of the Mutual Improvement Associations completely planned and flawlessly executed their inspiring programme. Months of planning and work were rewarded by a surprisingly good result.

More important than all, the Lord gave bounteously of His Spirit. Testimonies were strengthened and deeper determination made by those who assembled to do His will.

It was moreover the first mission-wide gathering of the traveling elders for some time. Approximately one hundred came, learned to know one another, conferred over their problems, received instructions and went back to their districts better prepared for their sacred work. Altogether it was a memorable and glorious occasion.—JOSEPH J. CANNON.

MISSION PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE

BEGINNING today in Liege, Belgium, is a conference of the presidents of the European missions, the first since the sessions in Basel, Switzerland, July 5th to 15th, 1932.

Held under the direction of President Joseph F. Merrill, the meetings will continue for approximately 10 days. Accompanying President Merrill from London to the conference were President Joseph J. Cannon of the British mission, and Sisters Emily T. Merrill and Ramona W. Cannon, consulting advisers of women's auxiliaries of the European and British missions, respectively.

THE THREE WITNESSES

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his relatives, and the last words that he uttered, before closing his eyes in death, were an affirmation of that which has been quoted.

Now, what with respect to the other witnesses? David Whitmer was excommunicated in 1838. He lived in Richmond, Missouri until the year 1888, fifty years out of the Church, dying a non-member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This has been said concerning him:

During the last few years of his life he was frequently visited by representatives of the Press and many others, to whom he would always bear strong and faithful testimony of the divinity of the Book of Mormon.

On one occasion, when the report reached him that he was accused by a certain party of having denied his former testimony, he wrote the following, which was published in the Richmond (Mo.) *Conservator* of March 25th, 1881:

“Unto all Nations, Kindreds, Tongues and People, unto whom these presents shall come:

“It having been represented by one John Murphy, of Polo, Caldwell county, Missouri that I, in a conversation with him last summer, denied my testimony as one of the Three Witnesses of the Book of Mormon:

“To the end, therefore, that he may understand me now, if he did not then, and that the world may know the truth, I wish now, standing, as it were, in the very sunset of life, and in the fear of God, once and for all to make this public statement: That I have never at any time denied that testimony, or any part thereof, which has so long since been published with that book, as one of the Three Witnesses. Those who know me best, well know that I have always adhered to that testimony. . . .

“My sincere desire is that the world may be benefitted by this plain and simple statement of truth. And all the honour to the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, which is one God. Amen.

“Richmond, Mo., March 19, 1881. DAVID WHITMER, SEN.”

DAVID WHITMER was an outstanding character. He was above the average in intelligence and integrity. His word was as good as his bond. His character was certified to be of the highest type by the mayor of the city, by judges on the bench, by lawyers, by the postmaster, by the most prominent and leading citizens in the City of Richmond. He was known by his neighbours to be truthful and honourable in every respect.

Three days before his death he called to the family physician and said to him: “Dr. Buchanan, am I in my right mind?” “You are, Mr. Whitmer,” was the answer, “for I have just held conversation with you. Why do you ask?” “Because I want now my family and a few of my intimate friends to come to my bedside.” They came. He sat up and bore his dying testimony and witness of the truth of that which I have read to you concerning his testimony in this sacred volume, the Book of Mormon. He closed his eyes in death, and sealed his lips, like his companion and associate, Oliver Cowdery, with that testimony upon them.

Now, what of the other witness, Martin Harris? He was not excommunicated from the Church. He became, however, very

much disappointed, after the death of the Prophet Joseph, because he was not called to a position of prominence.

Martin Harris's family travelled with one of the early migrations of the Church to Utah, but Martin Harris refused to go. He remained in Kirtland, Ohio. On his return from a mission to England, a young man by the name of William Harrison Homer visited the city of Kirtland, in which the Kirtland temple was standing. Martin Harris was at that time the custodian of that sacred building.

After a brief conversation, Martin Harris said to Elder Homer, "If you desire to see the temple, follow me." They went into that sacred place. They came to a point where the sun was shining brightly through the window, falling upon the floor. They paused for a moment, and this question was put by Elder Homer to Martin Harris, "Do you still believe, Mr. Harris, that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, and that the Book of Mormon is true?" Answering, he said, very impressively:

"Young man, do I believe it? Do you see that sun shining? Just as surely as the sun is shining on us and gives us light, and the moon and stars give us light by night, just as surely as the breath of life sustains us, so surely do I know that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God, chosen of God to open the last dispensation of the fullness of times. So surely do I know that the Book of Mormon was divinely translated. I saw the plates. I saw the angel. I heard the voice of God. I know that the Book of Mormon is true, and that Joseph Smith is a true prophet of God. I might as well doubt my own existence as to doubt the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon, or the divine calling of Joseph Smith."

Elder Homer returned to Salt Lake and related the incident to President Brigham Young.

They sent for Martin Harris. He went to Utah. He was

NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Appointment of Dr. Thomas D. Rees of Los Angeles, California as president of the Australian mission to succeed President Clarence T. Tingey has been announced by the First Presidency. Elder Rees was formerly president of Juab Stake in southern Utah. President Tingey has served three missions to Australia.

Chief morale officer of the silver jubilee anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America to be held in Washington D.C., August 21st to 30th is the position to which Oscar A. Kirkham, executive secretary of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement association, has recently been appointed. The announcement was made by Dr. James E. West, Chief Scout executive of America. The

assignment is the fourth signal honour of directing the morale forces at Scout jamborees that has come to the Latter-day Saint scouter. In the international jamborees at Arrowe park and Birkenhead, England and at Gedollo, Hungary he served in this capacity.

Japanese radio listeners have sent several letters to KSL, Salt Lake City broadcasting station, in acknowledgement of its recent around-the-world broadcast, which featured an address by President Heber J. Grant. One letter from Tokyo was accompanied by a clipping from *Yomiuri Shimbun*, Tokyo newspaper, showing a group of Japanese listeners tuning in on the programme.

baptized again into the Church. He stood in the Tabernacle in 1870, and before ten thousand people said :

"These eyes have seen the golden plates. These eyes have seen the angel of God. These hands have handled the golden plates. These ears have heard the voice of God, and I know that Joseph Smith is a prophet of the living God, and my testimony to the Book of Mormon is true."

In 1875, on the 10th day of July in the little town of Clarkston, Cache county, Utah, just before Martin Harris's spirit took its flight, he called to Elder Homer, who was in the room :

"You have been my friend. Yes, I did see the plates on which the Book of Mormon was written. I did see the angel. I did hear the voice of God, and I do know that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God, holding the keys of the Holy Priesthood."

What can you think of such testimony? It is recognized in jurisprudence that death-bed witness, or testimony, is the outstanding and supreme kind of testimony, almost unimpeachable. Here is the testimony of these three men, in the Church, out of the Church, subject to all sorts of prejudice and persecution and bitterness and ostracism. Yet they held faithful and true to the last breath of their lives, to that wonderful and marvellous witness and testimony—the restoration of the Gospel, the restoration of the Holy Priesthood.—(Adapted from a sermon delivered in the Salt Lake Tabernacle, May 19th, 1935.)

THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY

(Concluded from page 371)

third, with 4,025 points. Approximately 300 persons attended the Honour Day exercises in the Chapel.

Saturday evening the gala M. I. A. flannel dance was held in the Town hall. More than 400 persons attended.

The Sunday sessions began at 8 a.m. with a testimony meeting in the Chapel, approximately 300 attending. The general session which followed at 10 a.m. in the Town hall was attended by approximately 400 saints and friends. The programme included an organ prelude by Elder Bertram Willis; introduction of the new slogan by Sister Bickerstaff; a message from the general boards by Sister Bennett, and talks by President Cannon and Sisters Merrill, Cannon and Horner. Elder Durham conducted.

"Build Zion Today with M. I. A." was the theme of the Sunday afternoon session. Speakers on the programme, conducted by Elder Durham, were Sisters Horner, Bailey and Mace, and Brothers Tarr, Bleakley and Russell of the mission boards, and Kenneth Bailey of Kidderminster branch, Joyee Gittins of Kidderminster branch, Ernest Osbourne of St. Albans branch, Edna Bloxham of Mansfield branch, Norman Dunn of Handsworth branch, and Marie Anastasion of South London branch. A prelude to the meeting was played on the large Town hall organ by 15-year-old Melvin Dunn of Handsworth branch.

Meetings of M. I. A. executives were conducted in the afternoon. The general session, attended by approximately 450 persons, was conducted in the evening by Sister Horner. "A Challenge to the Youth of Britain" was given by Elder Gordon B. Hinckley, and it was answered by Brother Lorenzo P. Dunn

of Kidderminster branch M Men; Sister Maggie Mavin of Plymouth branch Gleaners, and Sister Violet Clayton of the Luton branch Gleaners. President Cannon's inspiring sermon on the sacrifice and atonement of Jesus Christ climaxed the day.

It is significant that the Sunday services were held on the sixtieth anniversary day of the first Y. M. M. I. A. meeting of the Church, which was held in the Thirteenth ward meeting house in Salt Lake City. Officers at the meeting were: president, H. A. Wooley; first counsellor, B. Morris Young; second counsellor, Heber J. Grant, and secretary, H. H. Goddard.

The morning of Monday, June 10th, was occupied with five M. I. A. institutes.

Sheffield district won the M Men track and field meet at Whitville field in the afternoon, assembling 29 points. Birmingham was second, with 28 points; Leeds, third, with 24 points, and London and Welsh districts tied for fourth, with seven points each.

Winners of the individual events and their respective times and marks were: high jump, Thomas Watkins of Leeds district, 4 feet 3 inches; 100 yards dash, Thomas Watkins, Leeds district, 11.6 seconds; standing long jump, Ronald Joseph of Birmingham district, 7 feet 4½ inches; running long jump, Lorenzo Dunn of Birmingham district, 15 feet 6 inches; 440-yard relay, Sheffield district, 57½ seconds; 880-yard relay, Sheffield district, 1 minute 58.6 seconds; hop, step and jump, J. W. Perry of Welsh district, 31 feet 10 inches; half mile, Fred Laycock of Leeds district, 2 minutes 25.6 seconds; football kick, Ernest Osbourne, London district, 144 feet.

And so in the beautiful little rug-weaving center of the midlands, the Latter-day Saints wove the fabric of a new era in M. I. A.!—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

Cabinet—Mr. Stanley Baldwin, who became Prime Minister on June 7th following the resignation of Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, is outlining with his new cabinet a policy for continuing Great Britain's economic recovery. Including twenty-two members, the new cabinet comprises the following* offices and members, former holders being shown in parenthesis:

Prime Minister (Mr. MacDonald), Mr. Baldwin; Lord President of Council (Mr. Baldwin), Mr. MacDonald; Chancellor of Exchequer, Mr. Neville Chamberlain; Lord Chancellor (Viscount Sankey), Viscount Hailsham; Home Secretary (Sir John Gilmour), Sir John Simon; Foreign Secretary (Sir John Simon), Sir Samuel Hoare; Lord Privy Seal (Mr. Anthony Eden), Marquis of Londonderry; Minister of War (Viscount Hailsham), Viscount Halifax; Dominions Secretary, Mr. J. H. Thomas; Air Minister (Lord

Londonderry), Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister; Secretary for India (Sir Samuel Hoare), Marquis of Zetland; Secretary for Scotland, Sir Godfrey Collings; Secretary for Colonies (Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister), Mr. Malcolm MacDonald; President of Board of Trade, Mr. Walter Runciman; First Lord of Admiralty, Sir Bolton Eyres-Monsell; Minister Without Portfolio, Mr. Anthony Eden; Minister Without Portfolio, Lord Eustace Percy; Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Walter Elliot; President of Board of Education (Viscount Halifax), Mr. Oliver Stanley; Minister of Health (Sir E. Hilton Young), Sir Kingsley Wood; Minister of Labour (Mr. Oliver Stanley), Mr. Ernest Brown; First Commissioner of Works, Mr. W. Ormsby-Gore.

The office of Postmaster General, not included in the new cabinet, is occupied by Major Tyron, former Minister of Pensions, who succeeds Sir Kingsley Wood.

AUXILIARY GUIDE FOR JULY

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SUNDAY JOINT PROGRAMME

Hymn: "O Say, What is Truth."

Invocation.

Hymn: "Carry On."

Readings: Hymns by Latter-day Saint composers (*Latter-day Saint Hymn Book*, or *Songs of Zion*.)

Talk: "Men and Women of the New Dispensation." Twenty minutes.

Talk: "We Stand for Spirituality and Happiness in the Home" (the new slogan). Twenty minutes.

Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way."

Benediction.

SUMMER ACTIVITY

Summer is the time when M. I. A. takes its healthy spirit out-of-doors, and with colours flying, gains new ground and new strength for another year's work. Gold and Green, the M. I. A. colours, symbolize: Green, youth and growth; Gold, power and glory.

Following are the *projects* for Summer, 1935:

July—Mother's and Daughter's Day.

August—Father's and Son's Outing.

August—(Suggested for additional activity) G-I-e-a-M Day.

A community swim and picnic, at which the M Men and Gleaners act as hosts to the whole Branch. Sack lunches prepared by the Gleaners, a cricket or softball game between men and women, a swim in adjacent baths, a programme of selected gramophone records, and community singing are suggested for G-I-e-a-M Day.

REPORTS

Secretaries should record all summer meetings, sports, and projects, especially the three main projects. However, *no monthly reports will be required until September 20th*. But, secretaries are requested and instructed to turn in a report of all Summer Activities, covering the entire Summer period, with the *September 20th reports*. Please do not fail us. This information will be required for the 1935-36 Annual report.

The North London M. I. A. is meeting regularly each Thursday during the Summer at the Lea Bridge Road Fields.

Write your branch plans to the Mission Office. We should like to have your good ideas.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Doings in the Districts: Leeds—Gleaner girls were in charge of the Leeds branch Honour Day programme, which was presented in the branch hall on Thursday, May 23rd, under the supervision of Sister Florence Butterfield, Y.W.M.I.A. president. A reading by Miss Vera Carrington, a retold story by Sister Annie Wigglesworth, games and competitions provided an entertaining evening for the 25 persons present.

Members of the Leeds branch Relief Society were the guests of their president, Sister Dorothy Webster, at a pie supper at her home on Wednesday, May 29th.

Sheffield—Members and friends of the Sheffield branch enjoyed a "select" dance on Saturday, April 20th. The music was furnished by Mr. C. P. Wooten's orchestra.

A ramble over the Derbyshire moors to the quaint, old village of

Hathersage was enjoyed by saints and friends of the Sheffield and Barnsley branches on Easter Monday, April 22nd. The rambles visited Strange Pole and Ringing-ton during their 22-mile trek.

Liverpool—Decorated in gay colours, the Burnley branch hall was the scene of a Jubilee dance sponsored by the Y. W. M. I. A. on Saturday, May 11th. Sisters Doris and Lilian Owens planned the occasion, attended by 70 persons.

For the purpose of raising funds for Mother's Day gifts, the Preston branch Sunday school held a social in the branch rooms on Friday, May 10th. Sisters Ethel Cookman and Mary Hartley were in charge of the programme, which included musical numbers, recitations and games.

Birmingham—Members of the Birmingham district held a farewell social for Elder Elliott H. Merrell in the Handsworth hall, April 27th, following the regular monthly Union meeting.

Features of the programme were readings by Sisters Dora Green and Patricia Green, vocal solos by George Makin and Muriel Hunter, a piano selection by Melvin Dunn, a vocal trio rendition by the Georgians, and a play, "Banana Oil," given by the travelling missionaries of the district. A special event was a presentation of a wallet to Elder Merrell, who has served as president and supervising elder of the district, as a parting gift.

Rugby branch Relief Society held a social and supper on Tuesday, April 30th, at the home of Sister Winifred Lynn. Brother Kenneth G. Bennett was in charge of the games, and Sister Lynn served the refreshments to the 20 guests.

Rugby and Nuneaton branches combined for special Mother's Day services on Sunday, May 12th, in the Nuneaton branch hall. Fifteen persons, including nine friends, travelled from Rugby for the meetings.

Manchester—Approximately 150 saints and friends attended the Manchester district M. I. A. convention and Honour Day programme in the Manchester branch hall on

Saturday, May 25th. Seated at tables adorned in gold and green colours, the guests listened to toasts by Sister C. May Pullen of Rochdale branch and Brother Leonard Baron of Hyde branch. The programme that followed the banquet included responses from the winners of the district contests in public speaking, drama, choral singing, and Gleaner Girl "Treasures of Truth," talks by District President William Gregson and Brothers John Massey and two vocal solos by Brother Hugh Q. Jones.

Branch conferences in the five branches of the Manchester district have been held recently, with District President William Gregson and Supervising Elder Elbert H. Startup being the principal speakers.

Brother Sam Mills of Oldham branch was sustained to succeed Brother Frederick Wiles as Sunday School supervisor of the Manchester district on Sunday, June 2nd.

Portsmouth—Sisters Emily Saphier and Ivy Flack were baptized into the Church in the sea by District President Richard G. Harston on Thursday, May 9th. Baptismal services were held in the home of Sister Bertha A. Carter, and confirmations followed the baptismal ceremonies.

A neighbourhood Sunday School was organized at the home of Sister Edith Mason in Aldershot on Saturday, May 18th, at a regular cottage meeting. Sister Mason was sustained as superintendent and Brother Henry Squire as first assistant.

Scottish—Saints and friends of Scotland enjoyed a district-wide Jubilee celebration on Monday, May 6th, at Edinburgh. In the morning the merry-makers, some of whom had travelled 45 miles in a charabanc to the event, visited places of interest and then retired to Davidson's Public park, where lunch was served and games and athletic competitions were held. Glasgow branch won the football honours, defeating Edinburgh, 2-0, and the travelling elders, 4-1. Edinburgh branch won most of the races. In the evening community singing and dancing in the Edin-

burgh branch hall climaxed the day's activities. District President William Stout was chairman of the committee in charge, including Brothers Walter Foote, James McQueen, Robert McQueen, Thomas Graham, Jr., William Percy and James Calder and Sisters Mina and Jessie Thomson, Margaret Graham, Dolly Stout, Ella Houston and Isabel Percy, all of whom are M. I. A. officers.

At a baptismal service conducted in the Glasgow branch on Saturday, May 18th, under the direction of Elder Roscoe G. Ward, Brother James Gemmell was baptized by Elder John P. Gleave and confirmed by Supervising Elder Albert P. Smoot.

London—The annual spring conference of the Luton branch was held Sunday, April 28th, in the branch hall. The morning session, under the direction of Brother W. Smith, included talks by Sisters

Violet Clayton and Joan Simpson and Brother Jackie McRae. Supervising Elder J. Kay Lindsay and Elder Ralph W. Hardy were the principal speakers in the evening meeting, which was conducted by President William H. Gadd.

New branch officers have been appointed recently in the North London and Southwest London branches by the new district presidency of President Andre K. Anastasiou and Brothers William C. McCormick and Alfred J. Willmott. New officers of the North London branch include David H. Willmott, president; George Poole, first counsellor; James P. Hill, second counsellor, and Walter Downs, branch clerk. In the Southwest London branch, Samuel Hislop has been sustained as branch president, with John Bleakley as first counsellor and James F. Craske as second counsellor and branch clerk.

DEATHS

IANSON-HOLTON—Muriel Wendy Ianson-Holton, nine months old daughter of Brother and Sister Alvin Ianson-Holton of the Rawmarsh branch, Sheffield district, died May 14th from pneumonia following whooping cough. Funeral services were held Friday, May 17th, in the Greasborough cemetery chapel, under the direction Elder Herbert T. Edgar. The grave was dedicated by Elder Frank E. Ellis.

MEADS—Born in England, where he joined the Church in 1880,

Brother Arthur Meads, 82, passed away May 17th, in a Salt Lake City hospital. Death came from causes incident to age. Brother Meads, who has many friends and relatives in Britain, emigrated to Utah in 1881. He is survived by two sons, Herbert L. and Frank Meads; a daughter, Mrs. Hazel M. Bangarter, all of Salt Lake City; 26 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted in the Thirty-fourth ward by Bishop S. Burton Newman.

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